

Resolution No.:	<u>17-70</u>
Introduced:	<u>March 1, 2011</u>
Adopted:	<u>March 8, 2011</u>

**COUNTY COUNCIL
FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND**

By: Councilmember Navarro, Council President Ervin, Council Vice President Berliner
and Councilmembers Rice, Leventhal, Elrich, Floreen, Riemer, and Andrews

SUBJECT: Resolution in Support of State Legislation Granting In-State Tuition to Maryland High School Students

Background

1. Montgomery County believes in the dignity of all of its residents, regardless of immigration status, and recognizes the importance of their contributions to social, religious, cultural, and economic life.
2. Montgomery County has long been home to immigrants from around the world, who come here seeking peace, stability, and a better life for their families.
3. The County's foreign born population has nearly doubled since 1990 from 141,000 to over 279,000, accounting for 30% of the County's population and over 40% of all of Maryland's immigrants.
4. Despite lacking legal status, many immigrant youth are working hard to achieve success in this country and are eager to contribute to our society and economy.
5. However, after graduating from high school, many of these students often find college prohibitively expensive, especially at the much higher out-of-state tuition rates that they must currently pay to attend public colleges in Maryland.
6. We must leverage the state and County's significant investment in K-12 education by providing an opportunity for these students to attend an affordable, quality college. Montgomery County Public Schools are among the finest in the country, and its students are a valuable resource and the key to our future economic and social vitality.
7. The University System of Maryland, Montgomery College, and the Maryland State Education Association support granting in-state tuition to all students from Maryland tax-paying families who attend and graduate from Maryland high schools.
8. Children who have been raised as members of our community and educated in our schools should not be limited and defined by their parents' circumstances.

Action

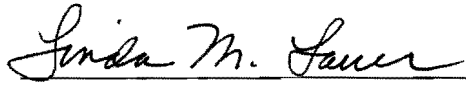
The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland approves the following resolution:

The Montgomery County Council believes that access to education is a cornerstone of our democratic values as a nation, and recognizes that equitable access to higher education is essential to our economic and social well-being.

Therefore, the Montgomery County Council supports the passage of:

Maryland Senate Bill 167/House Bill 470, *Higher Education - Tuition Charges - Maryland High School Students*, which would grant in-state tuition to students from Maryland tax paying families who attend and graduate from Maryland high schools, regardless of their immigration status.

This is a correct copy of Council action.



Linda M. Lauer, Clerk of the Council